Statement

Children maintained under Shishu Greh

Name of State	No. of Shishu Grchs	No. of Children Maintained
Andhra Pradesh	3	40
Arunachal Pradesh	1	20
Delhi	2	19
Gujarat	2	30
Haryana	2	20
H.P.	1	10
Karnataka	1	10
Kerala	2	20
M.P.	1	20
Maharashtra	15	200
Manipur	2	17
Mizoram	1	10
Orissa	X	120
Rajasthan	2	30
Tamil Nadu	2	40
Tripura	1	20
West Bengal	2	30
Total:	48	656

Exploitation of children of sex workers and pavement dwellers

474. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action plan to prevent the abuse and exploitation of the children of pavement dwellers and of sex workers in the country including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what role State Governments are playing in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing a scheme called "An Integrated programme for Street Children' to prevent destitution of children and facilitate their withdrawal frGm life on the streets. The State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, the Local Bodies, Educational Institutions and Voluntary Organizations are eligible for financial assistance under this programme. This scheme is being implemented across the country including Andhra Pradesh. Further, this Ministry has launched a 24 hour free phone service called child-line for children in distress. This service can be accessed by a child in difficulties or any concerned adult on his/her behalf by dialing 1098 in the telephone. Ch'ld-line service is presently available in 17 cities namely, Ahmedabad, Bhubaneshwar, Bhopal, Kolkata, Chennai, Coimbatore, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Mumbai; Nagpur, Patna, Trivandrum, Varanasi. and Vijayawada.

The Departmenat of Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development that deals with sexua! exploitation of women and children has formulated a Plan of Action to combat trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is also implementing the "Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations for providing Social Defence Services'. This is an umbrella scheme under which the Ministry is providing assistance to Voluntary Organizations for undertaking programmes which are not covered under the existing schemes of the Ministry. Under this Scheme a number of programmes are being supported for rehabilitation of children of sex workers.

(c) In pursuance to the announcement of the Plan of Action by the Department of Women & Child Development, State Governments have set up State Advisory Committees and are taking action to notify special police officers, setting up Advisory Boards of Social Workers and NGOs in red light areas, conducting regular raids and taking measures for the protection and rehabilitation of rescued persons.